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July 9, 2014

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY - [r5foia@epa.gov](mailto:r5foia@epa.gov)**

Regional Freedom of Information Officer  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 (MI-9J)  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Re: Records Pertaining to Merit Energy Company, LLC  
Hartland 36 Natural Gas Processing Plant, 13750 Lone Tree Road, Hartland  
Township, Michigan - CERCLA § 104(e) Request for Information

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to obtain copies of all documents in the possession, custody and/or control of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 ("EPA") under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552, pertaining or related to a request for information made by EPA to this firm's client, Merit Energy Company, LLC ("Merit"), under authority of CERCLA § 104(e) on or about June 9, 2014, which concerns Merit's Hartland 36 Natural Gas Processing Plant located at 13750 Lone Tree Road, Hartland Township, Michigan.

Under cases interpreting FOIA, I believe that documents related to the June 9, 2014 information request are available to me and to other members of the public. Your agency is believed to have custody of these documents. If it does not, I request prompt notice of their current location. If any portion of this request is denied, I request a detailed statement of the reasons for the withholding and an index or similar statement of the nature of the documents withheld. If EPA claims privilege as related to these documents, please provide me a detailed index analyzing each claim of privilege along with a specific listing of every document for which a privilege was claimed. *See Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973), *cert. denied* 415 U.S. 977 (1974).

To expedite this request, I would be willing to discuss specific instances of deletion or other exemption claimed in advance of a final decision by the agency. I will pay reasonable

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charges incurred for the search and copying of the documents upon the presentation of an invoice and the requested documents. In addition, any copies of documents provided to me should be certified as authentic copies from EPA's files. Finally, to minimize copying expenses and expedite the transmittal of documents to be produced by EPA in response to this request, the documents can be supplied to me by electronic mail and/or by U.S. Mail on CD ROM.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

*/s/ Jeffrey W. Schwarz*

Jeffrey W. Schwarz

cc: James Entzminger, EPA R-5 (via e-mail only)